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THE STREET TREE TEST PLOT; SPRING PLANTING NOTES

In recognition of the increasing importance of street tree selection, the nucleus of a test plot of trees considered potentially valuable for street planting was set out in the spring of 1955 in one of the undeveloped sections of the eastern part of the Arboretum. The excellent performance resulting in this location led to subsequent plantings in 1956 and 1957 as well as to a decision to continue enlarging the collection to ultimately include all of the most desirable subjects available. An eventual rearrangement of the entire planting in conformance to accepted spacing standards is also anticipated, and until this is done the plot will remain closed to the general public.

Including the current season's additions, the total number of species, varieties and clons now represented in the project numbers fifty one, comprising three or five specimens each of the following trees:

- Acer campestre*, Hedge Maple (56)*
- Acer platanoides* "Almira", Almira Norway Maple (56)
- Acer platanoides ascendens*, Upright Norway Maple (56)
- Acer platanoides* "Cleveland", Cleveland Norway Maple (55)
- Acer platanoides columnare*, Columnar Norway Maple (57)
- Acer platanoides* "Irish", Charles F. Irish Norway Maple (56)
- Acer platanoides* "Rochester", Rochester Norway Maple (56)
- Acer rubrum*, Red Maple (57)
- Acer rubrum* "Armstrong", Armstrong Red Maple (56)
- Acer rubrum* "Gerling", Gerling Red Maple (56)
- Acer rubrum* "Scanlon", Scanlon Red Maple (56)
- Acer rubrum* "Tilford", Paul E. Tilford Red Maple (56)
- Acer saccharinum pyramidale*, Pyramidal Silver Maple (56)
- Acer saccharum*, Sugar Maple (57)
- Aesculus carnea Brioti*, Ruby Red Horsechestnut (55)
- Aesculus Hippocastanum*, Horsechestnut (57)
- Alnus cordata*, Italian Alder (56)
- Betula pendula fastigiata*, Pyramidal European White Birch (56)
- Catalpa bignonioides nana*, Umbrella Southern Catalpa (57)
- Crataegus Lavalleyi*, Lavalley Hawthorn (55)
- Crataegus monogyna compacta*, Globe Hawthorn (56)

*Figure in brackets denotes year of planting

Crataegus oxyacantha Paulii, Pauls Scarlet Hawthorn (57)
Fagus grandifolia, American Beech (57)
Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata "Marshall Seedless", Marshall Seedless Green Ash (56)
Ginkgo biloba, Ginkgo, Maidenhair Tree (56)
Gleditsia triacanthos "Beatrice", Beatrice Locust (57)
Gleditsia triacanthos "Imperial", Imperial Locust (57)
Gleditsia triacanthos "Skyline", Skyline Locust (57)
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis aurea Sunburst, Sunburst Locust (56)
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis Coles #154 (56)
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis Moraine, Moraine Locust (56)
Koelreuteria paniculata, Goldenrain Tree (57)
Liquidambar styraciflua, Sweet Gum (57)
Liriodendron tulipifera, Tulip Tree (57)
Morus alba "Kingan", Fruitless Mulberry (55)
Ostrya virginiana, Ironwood (57)
Platanus acerifolia, London Plane (56)
Quercus palustris, Pin Oak (57)
Robinia pseudoacacia umbraculifera, Globe Locust (55)
Robinia pseudoacacia x hispida, Idaho Locust (55)
Sorbus alnifolia, Korean Mountain Ash (57)
Sorbus aria lutescens, Yellowleaf Mountain Ash (55)
Tilia americana pyramidalis, Pyramidal American Linden (56)
Tilia cordata, European Littleleaf Linden (56)
Tilia euchlora, Crimean Linden (57)
Tilia petiolaris, Pendant Silver Linden (57)
Ulmus carpinifolia Christine Buisman, Buisman Elm (55)
Ulmus carpinifolia umbraculifera, Globe Smoothleaf Elm (56)
Ulmus hybrid Fremont, Fremont Elm (56)
Ulmus hybrid Rageth, Rageth Elm (56)
Zelkova serrata, Japanese Keaki Tree (56)

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Those interested in **unusual trees** will also want to watch the performance of the following under mid western conditions: *Acer platanoides* "Goldsworth Purple", another of the red foliated types whose popularity has increased steadily since the introduction of the Crimson King Maple; *Carpinus betulus quercifolia*, the Oakleaf European Hornbeam, whose name is self-descriptive; the Hupeh and Korean *Evodias*, *Evodia hupehensis* and *E. koreana*, woody representatives of the Rue family of interest primarily for their late white flowers in flat Viburnum-like clusters and their showy glossy black berries in the fall; *Magnolia soulangeana* "San Jose", a western introduction with extra large white flowers lightly flushed pink, and an evergreen oak which its contributor, Mr. C. E. Garee of the Noble Nursery of Noble, Oklahoma, calls the Western or Hardy Live Oak, "*ilicifolia*".

* * *

Additions to the Arboretum Beech (*Fagus*) Collection. The collection of Beech, that outstanding group of ornamental trees known for their stately habit, attractive bark and decorative foliage has been enriched by the addition of the following forms. While a majority of them were planted in the *Fagus* collection to the west of Parking Area #8,

several were given sheltered sites on Frost Hill. Entirely new to the collection were: *Fagus sylvatica Rohanii*, a cut-leaved purple variety, *Fagus sylvatica Spaethiana*, the darkest of the purple leaved forms and *Fagus sylvatica tricolor*, with multicolored foliage, all contributions of the Siebenthaler Nursery; *Fagus sylvatica purpurea pendula*, the Weeping Purple-leaved European Beech, *Fagus sylvatica rotundifolia*, the Roundleaf European Beech and *Fagus sylvatica zlatia*, the so called Golden Beech, whose young foliage is distinguished by its yellowish cast. Although already represented by specimens elsewhere in the Arboretum these additional *Fagus sylvatica* varieties were also added to the group: "*fastigiata*", "*heterophylla*", "*pendula*", "*purpurea*" (copper) and "*Riversii*" (purple), the last two varieties now grouped by botanists under the name "*atropunicea*".

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New Crabapples are always of interest, and the following additions to the collection will bear watching: *Malus* "Abundance", "Henry F. DuPont" and "Sutherland", contributions of Interstate Nurseries; *Malus* Minnesota #14AB, a variety with beautiful unfolding red foliage, *Malus Morden* 457, (contributed for trial by the Simpson Orchard Co.), a selection valued for its upright form and profuse red bloom which starts appearing while the plants are still small, *Malus* Pink Beauty, "Prairie Rose" and "VC4", the latter an introduction of the Northwest Nursery Company with bright pink flowers and purplish foliage of all season effect, and *Malus* "Strathmore", a new narrow pyramidal crab with darker colored flowers than the familiar "Hopa" and good looking foliage which retains its reddish coloring throughout the season.

While the spring shrub accessions are too numerous to mention in detail, there are among them several outstanding subjects. *Buxus sempervirens* "Northland", the Northland Boxwood, is one of them. Contributed to the Arboretum for testing by C. A. Vanderbrook of Newark, New York, this hardy strain of Southern Boxwood has stood 35° below zero temperatures at the Geneva, N. Y. Experimental Station where a boxwood testing project was conducted. What it will do here remains to be seen. Mrs. J. Norman Henry of Philadelphia, well known explorer and collector of native plants, is responsible for the discovery and introduction of a superior Sweet Shrub variety which bears the name *Calycanthus floridus* "Mrs. Henry Type". Not only are its flowers larger than normal, but of more pronounced fragrance as well. A jewel among dwarf shrubs is the Blackburn Cranberry Cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster apiculata* "Blackburn", a very compact growing clon selected on the basis of its more than generous fruiting habit. Its large bright scarlet berries are a sight to see. The Wintergreen Privet, *Ligustrum* species "Winter Green", sent for testing by Burtons Hill Top Nurseries, is another of the semi-evergreen privets potentially desirable wherever hardy. For small gardens the Dwarf Saucer Magnolia, *Magnolia Soulangeana* "Liliputian" should be a welcome plant, being as its name suggests, a miniature version of that favorite spring blooming hybrid. An additional dwarf shrub especially useful for small scale effects is *Potentilla fruticosa* "Katherine Dykes", a compact, gray foliated bush (to 3 ft.) producing a wealth of light chrome yellow flowers in early June and intermittently throughout the summer. Beauty and utility are combined in the Adams Improved Elderberry,

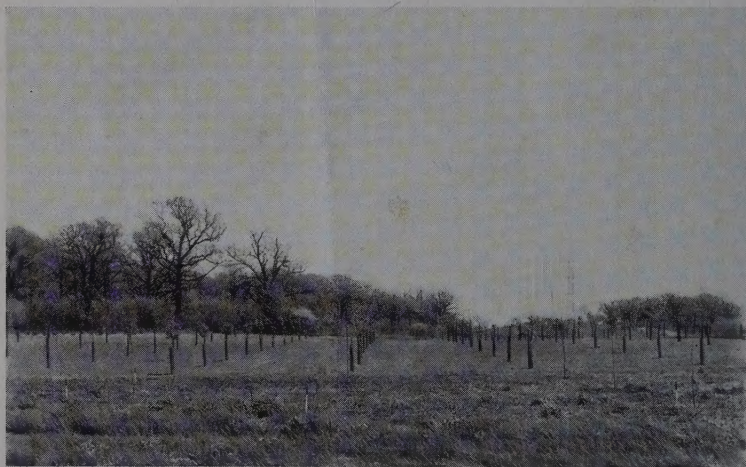
Sambucus canadensis "Adams Improved", a selected form of the native Elderberry producing large fruits in more generous sized clusters. Scarff's Nursery contributed plants of it to the Arboretum.

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Scope of Hedge Garden Expanded. Stimulated by the increasing interest in taller hedge materials suitable for use as screens and boundary plantings, the nucleus of a supplemental collection of hedges to be maintained at a 6 ft. height rather than within a 1 to 4 ft. range as at present, was established this spring south of the informal hedge rows and near the east end of the Research Hedge planting. Washington Hawthorn (*Crataegus cordata*), Chinese Lilac (*Syringa chinensis*), Wintergreen Pyramidal Arborvitae, (*Thuja occidentalis nigra*), and the Wayfaring-tree Viburnum (*Viburnum lantana*) constituted the initial planting, which is to be enlarged to include the best hedges which may be kept in the taller height range.

Additions to the main section of the Hedge Garden included the Bosley Hedging Holly, *Ilex opaca* "Bosley Hedging", and Browns Anglog-jap Yew, *Taxus media Brownii*, a compact form which may be maintained as low as one foot or so. Other changes involved replacement of the existing hedges of Globe Mugo Pine (*Pinus mugo compacta*) and Korean Littleleaf Boxwood, *Buxus microphylla koreana*, with new stock and the substitution of Korean Littleleaf Boxwood for Truedge Columberry as an edging in the center section of the Old Fashioned Rose Garden.

E. L. KAMMERER



The Morton Arboretum Street Tree Test Plot

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